THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. NARENDRA): (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Committee to study on development in rural areas

4472. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government set up a committee to study as to how to make development in the rural areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) to (c) Ministry of Rural Development have not set up any Committee to study as to how to make development in rural areas. The programmes of poverty alleviation and rural development of the Ministry are being implemented with the active involvement of rural people at the grass-root level and the Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs). The Ministry has also put in place a mechanism to collect requisite inputs which are used from time to time for effective policy interventions.

EGS

†4473. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether only rural people living below the poverty line are benefited under the Employment Guarantee Scheme;

(b) whether Government are considering to include all the unemployed persons under cover of this scheme; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) to (c) The National Rural Employment Guarantee Bill, 2004, introduced in Parliament on

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

21.12.04, provides for atleast 100 days of guaranteed wage employment in every financial year to rural poor households whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual labour. 'Poor household' means a household living during the relevant financial year, below the poverty line and includes the households of all primitive tribal groups as approved by the Central Govt. More than one adult member of the household can avail of the benefit under the Scheme to be made under the proposed legislations subject to the overall household entitlement.

Special projects from Rajasthan under SGSY

†4474. SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Rajasthan Government have sent 17 special projects involving Rs. 130.52 crore under Swarn Jayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana to Government of India; and

(b) whether the said projects have been sanctioned; if not, the reasons therefore alongwith the action being taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Ministry has already sanctioned 21 Special Projects under the Swarn Jayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana to the Government of Rajasthan. The Project Approval Committee had decided to comprehensively review all the sanctioned projects before new projects are sanctioned. The review meeting was held on 20th April, 2005.

Powerloom, handloom and handicraft units functioning in the country

4475. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise details of powerloom, handloom and handicrafts units functioning at present in the country and the employees working in each of them;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.